

1919 SHOWED SMALLEST OUTPUT IN TONS AND GREATEST SHRINKAGE IN GROSS REVENUE DURING PAST 19 YEARS

**10,254,640 TONS MARKETED;
SALES TOTALED \$48,196,808**

Necessary to Go Back to 1900 For Next Lowest Tonnage Record, While Aggregate Value Is Exceeded by Six Intervening Years; Average Price Third Best.

The Connellsville region's output of coke, shipped to consumers, during the year 1919, decreased in tonnage and shrank in gross value to a more remarkable extent than during any year in the past 19, notwithstanding the average realized price per ton was the third highest in the history of the region.

With a marketed tonnage of 10,254,640, which yielded the producers \$48,196,808 in revenue, the slump in output, as compared with 1918, was 5,883,569 tons, or 36.4 per cent, and the decrease in value was \$68,897,969, or 58.8 per cent. In making the records for similar annual tonnages we are obliged to go back to 1900 to find the next lowest total, the record of that year having been 10,166,234, or but 88,406 tons less than for 1919. The gross annual revenue is, however, found to have been exceeded in six different years, first in 1906, then in 1907, and again in 1915, 1916, 1917 and 1918.

In 1908 the output of 10,060,022 tons was 445,352 tons greater than in 1919, but at the very low average price of \$1.99 its value was but \$17,260,040, as compared with two and one-half times that amount in 1919. With output exceeding by 7,000,000 to 11,000,000 tons that of 1910, the revenue in 1908, 1907, 1915, 1916 and 1917 ranged from \$6,801,338 to \$68,091,823 greater, but between no two successive years has there been so pronounced a drop in gross value as between 1919 and 1918.

Compared with 1916, when the region's highest record of 21,664,502 tons was made, 1919 fell behind by 11,409,862 tons, which loss was itself greater by 1,225,628 tons than the entire output of 1900. The decrease of \$68,897,969 in value in 1919, as compared with 1918, the year of greatest aggregate value in the history of the region, was greater than the gross revenue of any year except 1917 and 1918.

Remarkable as was 1918 as the year of greatest revenue from its chief product and the year of the Great War, in which the region played well its part, the year just closed had some distinctions that set it apart from all that have preceded it. During no previous year was the burden laid so heavily upon the operators, for so long a time, to gauge production so as to keep it within reasonable and proper range of a shifting demand. For a single month at the beginning of the year the effort was directed toward meeting the urgent demands and the pressing needs of coke consumers. During much of the remainder of the year energy was directed in an opposite direction, with the complications of a strike in the steel industry to be dealt with, and as a result of the return of an old one which was readily recognized as car shortage. Demand for coke took on more activity and once more, as the year was drawing to a close, there was need to apply pressure to increase production.

If there be any outstanding feature of the year which deserves to be emphasized it is the unanimity with which the producers of coke agreed upon and the fine spirit of cooperation with which they stood together upon the measures and means to keep a firm hold upon the changing situation. There was strong temptation, and frequent opportunity, when indiscreet action might have been created a condition that, while yielding temporary individual advantage and profit, would have to disrupted the trade that it might have eventuated in something closely akin to disaster. Fortunately for the industry, and everlastingly to the credit of the operators, these temptations were cast aside and action taken which events have proven to have been for the best interests of all concerned.

Production and Shipments.

In preceding years the production of the region has been divided between the Connellsville and Lower Connellsville districts in proportions ranging from 52 to 54 per cent for the former to 46 to 48 per cent for the latter. In 1918 there was the nearer approach to equality, but for 1919 the trend was decidedly in the opposite direction, the Connellsville district's quota having been about 60 per cent and that of the Lower Connellsville district only 40 per cent. This change is accounted for by the fact that a number of the plants in Lower Connellsville district were given over exclusively to the

production of by-product coal through out the year and others were proportionately heavier shippers of it during 1919 than in 1918.

The estimated production of coke during 1919 in short tons by quarters in the two districts was as follows:

One measure of the extent to which the increased production of by-product coke has cut into the business of the merchant coke operators is shown in the shift of percentage of production by the merchant and the furnace interests respectively. In 1918 the furnace owners produced approximately 57 per cent as compared with 43 by the merchant owners. The decrease in the volume of merchant coke business last year is reflected in the drop to 39.7 per cent of the region's product as compared with 60.3 per cent at the onset of the furnace interests. The business was not wholly lost to the merchant operators, however, even the decrease in coke being compensated by larger raw coal shipments.

The production by the respective interests, by quarters in 1919, in short tons, is shown in the following tabulation:

On December 31, 1918, there was approximately 10,000 tons of stock coke on the yards, chiefly at the furnace owner plants. This had been included in the record of production in that year but it did not reach the consumers until during the early months of this year. There having been stock estimated at 45,324 tons on the open yards at the close of 1919, the tonnage moving to consuming markets during the year was 35,324 tons less than the estimated production for the year. The revenue of the producers for the year was therefore derived from only 10,254,640 tons, or the production of 10,299,964 tons, less the net stock tonnage.

It was not until late in the year when car shortage became quite pronounced that stock coke began to accumulate. During the period when the region was practicing self-imposed restrictions to adapt production to demand there was more or less stock accumulation but the curtailment measures continued to be applied with such rigor that by the time the trade began to perk up in late August the yards had been stripped bare and were kept so until the settlement of the coal strike. The interference with the prompt movement of loads and the complex which followed the demand for more general distribution of coal cars made it necessary for considerable coke to be stockpiled during the latter half of December. This was picked up at every opportunity but it was not possible to load it all out by the close of the year.

The progress of and the fluctuations in the coke trade of the Connellsville region, during the past 40 years, or since it assumed importance, as an industry, is comprehensively shown in the following tabulation. This gives the total number of available ovens at the close of each year, the annual output, the average price per ton and the gross value, as compiled and published annually in The Courier since 1880:

Year. Ovens. Shipped. Price. Revenue.
1880 1,711 1,202,845 1.10 1,323,129
1881 1,838 1,329,024 1.10 1,461,926
1882 1,984 1,485,351 1.11 1,648,839
1883 2,119 1,612,103 1.12 1,807,555
1884 2,254 1,738,851 1.13 1,974,896
1885 2,389 1,865,603 1.14 2,142,376
1886 2,524 1,992,355 1.15 2,310,806
1887 2,659 2,119,107 1.16 2,479,276
1888 2,794 2,245,859 1.17 2,647,746
1889 2,929 2,372,611 1.18 2,816,216
1890 3,064 2,500,363 1.19 3,000,000
1891 3,199 2,627,115 1.20 3,238,540
1892 3,334 2,753,867 1.21 3,422,276
1893 3,469 2,880,619 1.22 3,606,012
1894 3,604 3,007,371 1.23 3,789,748
1895 3,739 3,134,123 1.24 3,973,484
1896 3,874 3,260,875 1.25 4,157,220
1897 4,009 3,387,627 1.26 4,340,956
1898 4,144 3,514,379 1.27 4,524,692
1899 4,279 3,641,131 1.28 4,708,428
1900 4,414 3,767,883 1.29 4,892,164
1901 4,549 3,894,635 1.30 5,075,900
1902 4,684 4,021,387 1.31 5,259,636
1903 4,819 4,148,139 1.32 5,443,372
1904 4,954 4,274,891 1.33 5,627,108
1905 5,089 4,401,643 1.34 5,810,844
1906 5,224 4,528,395 1.35 6,000,000
1907 5,359 4,655,147 1.36 6,189,160
1908 5,494 4,781,899 1.37 6,378,316
1909 5,629 4,908,651 1.38 6,567,472
1910 5,764 5,035,403 1.39 6,756,628
1911 5,899 5,162,155 1.40 6,945,784
1912 6,034 5,288,907 1.41 7,134,940
1913 6,169 5,415,659 1.42 7,324,096
1914 6,304 5,542,411 1.43 7,513,252
1915 6,439 5,669,163 1.44 7,702,408
1916 6,574 5,795,915 1.45 7,891,564
1917 6,709 5,922,667 1.46 8,080,720
1918 6,844 6,049,419 1.47 8,269,876
1919 6,979 6,176,171 1.48 8,459,032

Operating Conditions.

Compared with 1918 there was a striking contrast in the conditions under which the region operated in 1919. During the preceding year every resource and energy of the trade was directed toward an increase in pro-

Statistics of the Connellsville Coke Trade for 1919.

Production of Both Districts By Weeks

1919 Week Ending	MERCHANT			FURNACE			TOTAL Production Tons
	Active Ovens	Prod'n Tons	Per Ton	Active Ovens	Prod'n Tons	Per Ton	
January 1-4	12,061	84,2	70,321	14,303	62,4	85,004	145,325
January 11	12,111	84,6	71,246	14,489	62,3	150,020	271,266
January 18	12,111	84,6	71,246	14,489	62,3	150,020	271,266
January 25	12,126	84,7	71,330	14,486	62,3	150,004	271,334
February 1	11,984	83,6	70,761	13,8,6	60,7	138,830	260,591
February 8	11,773	83,7	70,560	13,8,6	60,7	138,830	260,591
February 15	10,846	75,7	65,179	13,2,3	59,6	112,220	230,412
February 22	10,117	72,2	62,400	12,5,3	58,6	101,122	213,522
March 1	9,896	69,7	78,346	12,4,2	58,0	100,526	221,872
March 8	9,743	62,4	70,231	12,3,7	58,5	102,705	222,925
March 15	8,628	62,9	69,582	12,3,1	55,1	102,726	202,308
March 22	8,372	60,7	67,126	10,8,5	48,1	120,880	187,806
March 29	7,946	57,6	65,569	10,5,6	45,0	122,100	185,669
April 5	6,901	53,1	53,200	10,2,5	40,1	102,250	172,150
April 12	6,476	49,0	51,720	8,2,5	35,8	98,595	150,415
April 19	6,170	48,3	49,550	8,0,5	34,9	99,475	148,525
April 26	5,765	44,1	46,395	8,0,2	35,0	98,434	145,209
May 3	5,717	42,8	43,371	5,7,8	25,0	90,242	133,613
May 10	5,440	42,0	42,515	5,4,1	23,4	88,165	130,680
May 17	5,378	41,9	41,820	5,2,3	22,4	88,864	129,684
May 24	5,314	41,4	40,600	5,2,2	22,5	88,173	128,773
May 31	5,841	45,0	47,765	5,7,8	23,0	91,570	150,335
June 7	6,082	45,9	49,757	6,1,8	23,0	91,570	150,335
June 14	6,107	47,1	52,735	6,1,4	23,1	91,570	150,335
June 21	6,150	48,3	54,779	6,1,4	23,1	91,570	150,335
June 28	6,621	51,3	58,600	7,2,7	24,5	100,220	168,820
July 5	8,800	53,1	58,600	7,2,7	24,5	100,220	168,820
July 12	8,013	56,7	70,710	7,7,9	25,5	87,098	157,808
July 19	8,252	58,1	71,000	7,7,9	25,5	87,098	157,808
July 26	8,261	58,1	71,000	7,7,9	25,5	87,098	157,808
August 2	8,261	58,1	71,000	7,7,9	25,5	87,098	157,808
August 9	8,261	58,1	71,000	7,7,9	25,5	87,098	157,808
August 16	8,261	58,1	71,000	7,7,9	25,5	87,098	157,808
August 23	8,261	58,1	71,000	7,7,9	25,5	87,098	157,808
August 30	8,261	58,1	71,000	7,7,9	25,5	87,098	157,808
September 6	8,261	58,1	71,000	7,7,9	25,5	87,098	157,808
September 13	8,261	58,1	71,000	7,7,9	25,5	87,098	157,808
September 20	8,261	58,1	71,000	7,7,9	25,5	87,098	157,808
September 27	8,261	58,1	71,000	7,7,9	25,5	87,098	157,808
October 4	8,261	58,1	71,000	7,7,9	25,5	87,098	157,808
October 11	8,261	58,1	71,000	7,7,9	25,5	87,098	157,808
October 18	8,261	58,1	71,000	7,7,9	25,5	87,098	157,808
October 25	8,261	58,1	71,000	7,7,9	25,5	87,098	157,808
November 1	8,261	58,1	71,000	7,7,9	25,5	87,098	157,808
November 8	8,261	58,1	71,000	7,7,9	25,5	87,098	157,808
November 15	8,261	58,1	71,000	7,7,9	25,5	87,098	157,808
November 22	8,261	58,1	71,000	7,7,9	25,5	87,098	157,808
November 29	8,261	58,1	71,000	7,7,9	25,5	87,098	157,808
December 6	8,261	58,1	71,000	7,7,9	25,5	87,098	157,808
December 13	8,261	58,1	71,000	7,7,9	25,5	87,098	157,808
December 20	8,261	58,1	71,000	7,7,9	25,5	87,098	157,808
December 27	8,261	58,1	71,000	7,7,9	25,5	87,098	157,808
December 31	8,261	58,1	71,000	7,7,9	25,5	87,098	157,808
Totals	408,608	6,203,353	15,289,964	6,171,238	1,176,706	10,254,640	26,649,564
Average per Week	8,711	61,7	78,538	11,255	19,3	119,295	197,853

Merchant and Furnace Production of Both Districts by Months

1919	Merchant	Furnace	Total	Connellsville	Lower Connellsville	Both Districts
January	529,270	641,960	1,171,230	651,830	521,100	1,172,930
February	317,789	419,133	736,922	327,183	409,739	736,922
March	292,048	371,557	663,605	337,181	326,424	663,605
April	216,890	229,335	446,225	212,181	234,044	446,225
May	202,187	277,288	479,475	230,112	249,363	479,475
June	235,639	316,742	552,381	242,181	310,200	552,381
July	309,216	451,229	760,445	304,107	456,338	760,445
August	368,164	512,423	880,587	376,941	503,646	880,587
September	421,557	579,339	1,000,896	410,094	590,802	1,000,896
October	425,025	574,121	999,146	402,176	596,970	999,146
November	452,073	616,742	1,068,815	410,094	658,721	1,068,815
December	470,630	621,882	1,092,512	410,094	682,418	1,092,512
Totals	4,086,608	6,203,353	10,289,961	6,171,238	4,118,723	10,289,961
Average per Month	340,550	516,946	857,496	514,282	343,056	857,496

Comparative Production By Districts, 1918 and 1919, By Months.

	Connellsville		Lower Connellsville		Both Districts	
	1918	1919	1918	1919	1918	1919
January	584,992	652,820	435,058	571,400	1,019,450	1,224,220
February	351,185	427,183	419,686	307,739	770,871	734,922
March	292,048	371,557	381,619	242,181	673,667	613,732
April	216,890	229,335	287,074	212,181	503,964	441,516
May	202,187	277,288	277,288	212,181	479,475	489,463
June	235,639	316,742	309,216	242,181	544,855	554,363
July	309,216	451,229	309,216	304,107	618,323	760,445
August	368,164	512,423	368,164	376,941	736,325	880,587
September	421,557	579,339	421,557	410,094	831,651	1,000,896
October	425,025	574,121	425,025	402,176	827,201	999,146
November	452,073	616,742	452,073	410,094	902,167	1,068,815
December	470,630	621,882	470,630	410,094	940,724	1,092,512
Totals	3,892,881	6,173,258	3,892,881	4,118,723	7,785,762	10,289,961
Decrease from 1918		2,106,487		2,106,487		2,106,487
Average per Month	399,106	514,438	610,642	343,558	1,340,030	857,497
Decrease from 1918		181,069		297,584		182,555

fortnight ago, and the road is to 90 per cent operation or better may not be as rocky as the various trying experiences of 1916 led producers to fear. A full production of steel cannot but make a surpress upon the present highly undesirable situation of many consumers being short of material.

It is the well settled policy of some of the large steel producers to keep themselves ready to accept orders for railroad material in moderation, when the railroads are in position to place orders. These mills would not permit the railroads to be frozen out of the market after their troubles

ences of the past three years.

MAY AGREE TO SALE

Relief if West Virginia Creditors Will Not Block Thompson Deal.

Pending outcome of negotiations between trustees of the J. V. Thompson estate and West Virginia creditors looking forward to an agreement by which objections of the West Virginians to the sale of the Thompson plant will be withdrawn, a further holdings will be taken up on the delay in federal court decision on the return of the referee in bankruptcy has been secured.

It is expected that the decision will be handed down about March 1, prior to which time it is thought an agreement will be reached with the West Virginia creditors removing all objections to the sale of the Thompson properties to the Piedmont Coal company.

Paper Boosts Rates.

The Monongahela Republican boosted advertising rates for 1925 because of the scarcity and increased cost of newsprint.

Advertise in The Weekly Courier.

20
TWENTY-ONE SLAB

Sugar consumers will derive comfort from the recent developments in the situation as it concerns and price. The Sugar Equalization Board having failed to secure a price for the Cuban crop at a time when such action was possible and the price that would have saved American consumers millions of dollars.

Looking Backward
News of the Past Condensed from the Files of The Editor

JANUARY 1, 1880
Published a part of the Councilsville

have been left to the tender mercies
of the speculators who bought

crop and are just now beginning to enter the market in the United States. Under these conditions we have been advised by Washington that a retail price of 25 cents or more may be expected.

In fact, United States Attorney
Lowry Humes calmly assures a

21 cents a pound are legal at

dealers make no undue profit
On the heels of this campaign

which is evidently intended to protect people for still further increases in the cost of one of the prime necessities in every household—commodities and illogical decision. The Federal Trade Commission (the sale of sugar in combination with other goods as an inducement to certain articles in order to signal is unfair business practice). To the ordinary person such a decision is a self unfair if it was also ridiculous and inconsistent. The practice has been in vogue in merchandising for more years than members of the trade commission.

l m m o n g o n l a m e s b o h n e l y r o n e
 n h i p a n d l u e i n d e f o r t h e o f
 c r e e l j e r u m i t h f f o m a s a n d
 a c o t t e s b o t h o f d u n h a r l d w a
 c h e l s a n d c a t r i n e a m b r o s e b o t h o f
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 a s m e l l t o w n h p
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 a t t u r
 i c h u a l h i n g i n a p p r a i s e i n t h e
 t a m o r e a d o b e y s i s a t h u m
 h o u s e s o t h a t i t n e c e s s a r y t o
 p l a t 1

Moreover the Government of the United States has

established a precedent in the execution of the plan. During the time there was urgent necessity to conserve the supply of flour the government purchased the flour in equivalent purchases of wheat, but a proportionate amount of wheat in order to obtain flour. It made no difference if the household was concerned with a surplus of one cornmeal by ley, or corn flour, a dozen other cereals the household would not buy a pound of flour without adding the equivalent in wheat. It already more or less a stock of various dry feed products at home.

This was required in order to avert the consumption of flour in sugar because the total surplus following the example of the government have used the same method to regulate the demand for sugar. Only rarely is

[illegible]

buying as in the case of war
down purchases. A number of

In using the sugar combination, the grocer was protecting his customers in a sugar supply by pricing raids by sugar hunters who selfishly take every pound in

renoume conductor N C Stone
 ren James D Orr inside sent he
 S Stoner outside sent: I George
 inside
 ill re of Vanlerb (sent: I (f d)
 no Order United American Mo
 nics are elect d as foll u s con
 W D tel or n e committee
 Moore assistant recding se
 H B Moore warden William
 mold conductor Charles Herbert
 de sent: I A Tacy outside
 line: I Sickel trustee J C

JANUARY 5, 1960

without regard for or thought of the needs of other people. The effect

the trade commission's decision to be removed be very wise relations merchants had themselves thrown about the disbursement of sugar and will resolve the situation a scramble between consumers and as a natural consequence the price is to go beyond the Attorney General has defined as legal.

While the Federal Trade Commission itself may not be responsible for the fact that sugar is scarce the *Ping Shing Gazette* finds providing dealers with an excuse the practice whether fully justified or not.

[illegible]

other departments of the government
are responsible for the conduct

It seems clear that had not the
of the administration opposed
purchase of the Cuban crop
would have been neither the sea
that we have experienced not

threat of 30 cent sugar
 Meantime we are to be comf

by the assurance of the Department of Justice that the cost of living "coming down."

FOOT BRIDGE ASKED

Baltimore & Ohio Employees Want to Have Freest Access to Shops

The movement to have the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company construct a foot bridge over the tracks between the shops and South Street near theough Brewery has been given the 200 persons a signed a petition which will be presented to Director-General Hughes.

Danger from passing trains and the fact that there is no passing track of which there are several among the reasons given by the union in asking for the bridge project was up several years ago that one time seemed to be assured

HIBBS HEADS BOARD

[illegible]

George Orval Bush Named Sec

The board of county commissioners organized in Leno town Monday electing George W. Hibbs president, George Orval Rush secretary and Searight Marshall the minority member. As president Robert Powell retained as chief clerk and Mrs. L. B. Madden as chief trail cribbing clerk. J. Phillips was again elected.

The Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company, Inc., is the owner of the property in question. The property is located in the city of Washington, D. C., and is used for the purpose of transmitting telephone messages. The property is situated on a lot of land which is owned by the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company, Inc. The property is situated on a lot of land which is owned by the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company, Inc. The property is situated on a lot of land which is owned by the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company, Inc.

The prison board organized by ex-

Trip Round World
John S. Thompson, as returned from his ship, the O'Brien at Brooklyn, navy yard after spending a full year at his home at Dunbar. He expects to leave for a three years trip around the world.

I have been thinking of you a great deal lately.
 I hope you are well and happy.
 I have been thinking of you a great deal lately.
 I hope you are well and happy.
 I have been thinking of you a great deal lately.
 I hope you are well and happy.

[illegible]

